

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

ORDER NO. 86-6
NPDES NO. CA0005134

AMENDING WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR:

CHEVRON USA, INC., RICHMOND REFINERY AND
ALLIED CHEMICAL CORPORATION, RICHMOND WORKS,
INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS DIVISION,
RICHMOND, CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region, (hereafter called the Board) finds that:

1. On February 20, 1985 the Board adopted Order No. 85-26, a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit, prescribing waste discharge requirements for Chevron USA, Inc., Richmond Refinery and Allied Chemical Corporation, Richmond Works, Industrial Chemicals Division (hereafter discharger).
2. Chevron USA, Inc. currently discharges an average of 54 million gallons per day (mgd) of wastes (Waste 003) into Castro Creek approximately 500 yards downstream of its confluence with Wildcat Creek. Waste 003 is primarily a combination of an average of 13 mgd of process wastewater (Waste 001) and an average of 41 mgd of thermal wastes (Waste 002) (once-through cooling waters).
3. The Clean Water Act requires compliance with State water quality standards for the discharge of thermal effluent. The State Water Resources Control Board (State Board), on September 18, 1975, amended the Water Quality Control Plan for Control of Temperature in the Coastal Interstate Waters and Enclosed Bays and Estuaries of California (Thermal Plan). The Thermal Plan requires that for existing thermal waste, discharges shall comply with limitations necessary to assure protection of beneficial uses.
4. The State Board on May 16, 1974, adopted Resolution No. 74-43, which prescribed a Water Quality Control Policy for the Enclosed Bays and Estuaries of California. This policy states in part:

"Waste discharges shall not cause a blockage of zones of passage required for the migration of anadromous fish."
5. Wildcat Creek historically supported runs of steelhead trout, an anadromous fish. Efforts are currently in progress to restore the physical conditions in Wildcat Creek such that it may once again support a steelhead trout fishery.
6. The present discharge of Waste 003 contains a combination of chemical pollutants, heat, and salinity which cause a blockage to the migration of steelhead trout upstream into Wildcat Creek.

7. Order No. 85-26 includes a prohibition of discharge of Waste 001 into Castro Cove or Castro Creek or at any place where it does not receive a minimum dilution of at least 10:1 after July 1, 1987 and a compliance time schedule which required the discharger to submit plans and an interim time schedule for compliance with Prohibition C.1 by October 1, 1985.
8. The discharger submitted a letter dated September 18, 1985 which included an interim time schedule and plans to comply with the prohibition by July 1, 1987.
9. As this project is an NPDES Permit revision, this Board, pursuant to Water Code Section 13389, is not required to comply with the provisions of Chapter 3 of Division 13 of the Public Resources Code (California Environmental Quality Act).
10. The Board has notified the discharger and interested persons and agencies of its intent to prescribe revised waste discharge requirements for the discharger.
11. The Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that this Board's Order No. 85-26 is amended as follows:

A. Prohibition C.2 shall be added to read as follows:

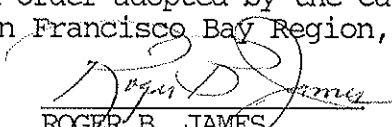
"C.2. The discharge of Waste 002 to Castro Creek or areas where it causes a blockage of zones of passage required for the migration of anadromous fish into Wildcat Creek is prohibited."

B. Provision D.11 is revised to read as follows:

<u>Task</u>	<u>Deadline</u>
1. Complete Environmental Impact Report:	October 1, 1986
2. Complete Design:	January 1, 1987
3. Complete Construction:	July 1, 1987

C. The discharger shall submit a plan by July 1, 1986 which includes a time schedule for the design and operating changes necessary to achieve compliance with Prohibition C.2. at the earliest possible date that is consistent with environmental improvements in Wildcat Creek.

I, Roger B. James, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region, on February 19, 1986.


ROGER B. JAMES
Executive Officer